

16 August 1968

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[REDACTED]
211 Magazine Building

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Dear [REDACTED]

I am pleased to write to you that the summer has been a very worthwhile one from my point of view. If the purposes of the Summer Intern Program were to expose the participant to numerous aspects of the Agency, while simultaneously giving him an in depth view of that office most concerned with his own specialty, the ends were well served. All of this, moreover, was accomplished in a rather surprising atmosphere of freedom of action.

My own situation was especially fortunate. The branch in which I have worked is small enough to allow me to easily seek the counsel of my colleagues. And, to a man, they were most kind and helpful. A unique feature of the program -- its willingness to plunge the intern directly into the workings of his branch -- was at first pleasantly overwhelming and later especially revealing as to the nature of Agency work. I greatly value this feature over a classroom situation. Too, writing up an individual project gave me a sense of direction and achievement. But equally important was the fact that I was exposed to the daily, more communal aspects of office life. Memoranda, office briefings, cable traffic and the like are a fascinating world unto themselves.

In concept and operation, then, the Summer Intern Program has functioned well. I here suggest, however, two points which might smooth out some of its rough edges.

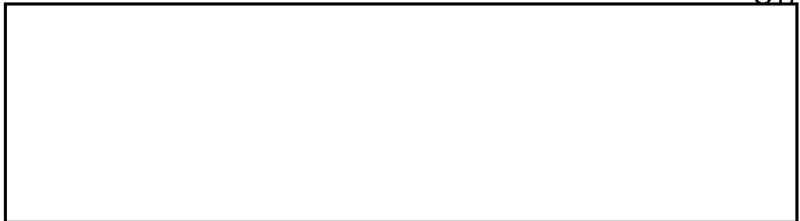
First, I would have preferred some degree of choice in the selection of my research project. As the summer progressed the significance of my topic became very apparent to me, but I could not help but think that other projects would have been at least as appealing.

Second, the briefings of other Agency components could have been of more significance to us had they been accompanied by some kind of written memoranda. Availability of pertinent reading matter prior to the briefings -- the technical aspects of NPIC especially -- would have allowed me, at the very least, to ask better questions afterwards.

I would, finally, like to thank the Agency for the opportunity for participating in the Summer Intern Program. [redacted] and [redacted] in particular, have given so freely of the advice and counsel which a young analyst needs upon entering the profession of intelligence.

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